



**Minutes of ordinary meeting, via Teams, on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 at 7.30.**

Meeting commences at 19.40

**1. Present** Tom Anderson **TA**(chair), Marion Macleod **MM**(secretary), HClIr Derek Louden, **DL**, Angie Cox **AC**(Minutes secretary) Ron Ferguson **RF** CC, Rita Fenton(Treasurer) **RMF** CC.

**Public in attendance** Dave Macrae

**2. Apologies** None

**3. Police report.** Apologies given for nonattendance. Report sent to **MM**, no callouts, 1 reported for DUI of drugs. Patrols of the area are on the go.

**4. Minutes of ordinary meeting held 19.11.20** Minutes approved by 1<sup>st</sup> **RFM** , 2<sup>nd</sup> **MM**

**5. Matters arising from minutes** Item 5, Barbaraville Improvement group, thanked KALECC for money received, some work has been started. Item 6, Christmas lights will not be removed because it is not deemed as essential work. HC won't be sending an invoice until the lights have been taken safely down. **RMF** has asked that, if possible, the invoice could be sent out and paid before the end of this financial year. Fly tipping in the entrance to Milton woodland, HC approached the person responsible and they promptly removed the rubbish. Item 8, trees obstructing lighting in Milton, **MM** has informed the HC and has had no reply. Mental health, Port authority and wind farm on agenda.

**6. Reports by Highland Councillors.** **DL** said there were no reports on the budget yet. UK budget is delayed until mid-March. Scotland are holding their budget before then. Scotland will have no idea how much money they will be getting from Westminster, so HC won't know how much money they will be receiving from Holyrood. The deficit in money for HC comes in lost revenue from car parking, planning and building warrants etc. The deficit currently stands at £8 million. Potholes reported in Balintraid, Scotsburn and Fearn junction. Ian Moncrief and Gary Urquhart are aware of the areas of roads affected. The tar plant has stopped manufacturing and getting the raw materials needed to fill the holes has been ongoing since the first lockdown, last March. Any holes needed mending got worse and couldn't be filled. Any expense that wasn't covid related, was not being spent. **SM** asked for the siting of a grit bin by the recycling area in Milton, because the ground has become very slippery. This has already been asked for by **MM** and **DL** is going to follow up.

**7. Annual accounts** there is currently £1333.09 in the accounts.

**8. Community Council issues.** Boundary consultation, this does not affect KALECC area, but councillors agreed to reply to acknowledge that KALECC are pleased the proposals do not affect our area and noted that we hoped any concerns raised by those areas affected

would be given serious consideration. **MM** to follow up. Moray Firth Development Plan. **TA** said it was a complicated document to review. There are a few errors on it, there is no longer a shop or garden centre. The bus connection has been exaggerated because there are no buses heading North. Residents are happy for the development providing it doesn't lengthen along the Firth. There is ground available for in filling. **TA** and **MM** are going to communicate to Planning with the residents housing preferences. **TA** and **RF** are going to attend Strathroy wind farm meeting. No updates within the last month. Helen Ross has said she is unaware of anyone in HC that can offer any professional advice on windfarm development but suggested contacting Local Energy Scotland for advice. **HCIlr DL** suggested contacting Malcom MacDonald and Keith Masson in HC. **HCIlr DL** and **MM** to follow up. The next Round Table meeting re Strathroy Windfarm is scheduled for next week and the intention is to discuss and agree the % share of Community Benefit for each CC. Proposal by KALECC was issued to the other CCs to view prior to meeting. **RMF** gave an update from Port Authority meeting. There has been a lot of activity over the last few months. The purchasing of East Quay ground will enable more renewable energy projects. Last year, when the facility was serving as a marshalling and assembly base for the construction of the Moray East offshore wind farm, there were 242 port calls at Nigg. Global said 60% of these were from the renewables sector and 40% were oil and gas vessels. More fencing is going to be erected, like what is already in place. Building and construction of new Quay will create more noise. Nigg CC Veronica Morrison is asking any residents affected to contact her. Construction will take place 7 am -7pm Mon to Fri. 7-1pm on a Sat. **TA** said there was a Parliament consultation on Scotland's Green Port model. Adopting best practice which helps deliver net-zero emissions and fair work principles, alongside supporting regeneration and innovation ambitions. **TA** recommended KALECC supports the Green Port system.

**9. Planning and Licensing** none this month

**10. Mental Health and wellbeing.** Dave Macrae gave councillors information on the community response due to the pandemic and second full lock down. There were 90 volunteers and 24 ambassadors, who check on people who are shielding etc at the start of the pandemic. This is now down to 17 Ambassadors. It is thought this is likely to be because of the weather, darker nights and more people are working through this lock down. People are coping better this time, supermarket deliveries already in place and folk were already being kept an eye on and in touch with their neighbours more. The main problem, mentally, this time is financial, dark nights and school closure has been extended. The longer this goes on the harder it is for people to manage. Transmission rate is lower in Tain than Alness and Invergordon. **HCIlr DL** has said he is contactable via Facebook and is also posting information on helplines that may help people affected by the pandemic. The Tain Volunteer group meet, online, once a fortnight. **MM** has details of the meetings and CC's decide it would be a good idea to post info and minutes from meetings etc on KALECC web page. **AC, RFM, MM** and **HCIlrDL** to follow up

**11. Correspondance.** Barbaraville Improvement Group thank you letter.

**12. AOB**

**13.Date of next meeting** February 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 via Teams

**14. Beinn Tharsuinn** nothing this month

Meeting concluded 8.30

*Angie Cox Minutes Secretary, KALECC, 01862 842187*